

BEHIND THE LINES

It's not streamlined or chrome-finished, but the burly three-ton transport, built in Canadian factories, has, with its magnificent performance in desert sand and Italian mud, caused fighting soldiers to dub it "Prince of the Road."

"Without your three-tonners and 15 hundredweights we couldn't have made Tunis," is the tribute of an 8th Army officer who, like other high-ranking transport and workshop officers of this famous army, will tell you without hesitation, "We're happy whenever we get a vehicle stamped 'Made in Canada.'"

Ploughing through fields and hills of Italian mud and slush and snow are many Canadian-made vehicles that were issued to the 8th Army before El Alamein and they are still doing a job that makes their drivers proud to sit behind the wheel.

In the big Italian push north from Reggio up through Potenza, Campobasso, across the Sangro and the Moro rivers, Canadian three-

tonners and 15 hundredweights, with their four-wheel drive, have got through where other transport was bogged down hub-deep in mud.

Major L. W. Diehl, of Hamilton, who commands a service corps company, said: "You should be here some muddy mornings. Vehicles without the four-wheel drive are bogged down while those driving the Canadian-made three-tonners lurch by and holler to their bogged-down buddies, 'So long, fellows, see ya in Berlin.'"

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A gunner's morale is highest when he's feeding his vicious 25-pounder guns hurling high explosives at the enemy, according to an army public relations dispatch from Italy. So the gunners had smiles on their faces you couldn't erase the day they gave each gun crew 600 rounds to fire, a total of seven and a half tons. M.D. No. 2 men who are typical of those participating in some of the 8th Army's hottest barrages include Lance-Sgt. D. O. Arnold, Brantford; Gunners G. M. Carter, Hamilton; W. H. Lester, Toronto; R. Jarratt, Toronto, and Sgt. H. F. Ireland, Brantford.

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Local Air Cadets who joined the R.C.A.F. in the last month include: A.C.2's D. H. Horton (153rd); T. S. Meldrum (81st); N. J. Firth (81st); K. J. McNutt (62nd); R. N. Nisbet (62nd); E. L. Missen (62nd); J. Parkin (153rd), and C. O. McIlroy. Names appeared in the Air Cadet magazine, edited by Sgt. C. D. Clarke, formerly editor of the Jarvis Flypaper.

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Hamilton airmen to graduate recently from air stations in Canada include: Sgts. H. M. Blythe, C. J. Lorimer, N. J. Anderson, R. E. Porter, D. L. Grierson, W. E. Bryant, K. K. Bragg, B. M. Stewart, A. M. Knox, R. J. Thompson, H. E. Gittings and J. K. Armour.

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E. E. Norrington, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Norrington, of Dundas, has been awarded a commission with the R.C.A.F. in Canada. Pilot Officer Norrington has been in the service four years. He served first as ground crew, re-mustered for training as a pilot and was awarded his wings at Hagersville a year ago last December.

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Members of the 38th Battalion who reside in Hamilton and district are reminded that the annual reunion is to be held in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, at 7 p.m., this Saturday, April 8.

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Lieut. Alex MacKay, senior schoolmaster at H.M.C.S. Star for nearly two years, has left for the coast where he will take up a sea posting.